Suggestions of Interest to Wheelwomen-Other Matters of General Utility-Happenings Local Circles.

A point for national pride is the fact that despite the long-vaunted superiority of the English wheel over the American, America is thus far the only country that has successfully invaded foreign countries, and especially England, with American bicycles. We have already beaten Great Britain in most of the world's sports, and the time is coming and is not far distant, when our commercial supremacy will be unquestioned. In one week recently the appraised value of the exports in cycles and cycling material from the port of New York, exclusively to Great Britain, was \$10,000, not a bad showing when one recalls the pleasant things English manufacturers have said of us. The fact is that America has successfully placed walked right into the trade declared by John Bull to be sacred to English manu-

A selection taken at random from the statement of the bicycle exports from the port of New York a little more than a fort-pight ago shows that bicycles were shipped night ago shows that bicycles were shipped to the following countries: Antwerp, British East Indies, Brazii, British Australia, Bremen, British West Indies, Central America, Copenhagen, Christiania, Hamburg, Hull, Hayti, Heisingfors, Havre, London, Southampton, Santo Domingo, United States of Colombia and Valparaiso. The value of the bicycles shipped to London alone was over \$5,000. The American bleycle in Switzerland is also an assured fact, and even the Geneva dealers have lately been convinced. In Turkey, where the sultan named the wheel "the devil's charlot" and forbade its use, the bicycle has not had much chance until of late. The latest reports from Constantinople are that cycling has at last gained some ground and that a few wheels are now used in Constantinople, Smyrna and Salonica. There is a track at Therapia on the Bosphorus, and another one is being built at Pera, the fashionable part of Constantinople. Cycling is also popular in Egypt, and one does not need to mention Paris, where cycling seems universal.

THE DOUBLE QUINT. new and striking invention for bleycles in the market is the double quint, made for fen riders on one machine. This, of course, ten riders on one machine. can only be used on straight roads, as it cannot be turned on a third of a mile track The double quint is intended for straight away racing, and although its possibilities have not yet been tested it is claimed that a faster mile than ever was before accomplished can be made by its use. Experts say that it will make a mile in thirty seconds, thus excelling both steam and elec-tricity. The riders on the sextuplet, for six, were recently thrown in making the turn on the third of a mile track in Cali-

Another innovation is that in tandem riding the woman now sits in the rear, intead of in the front as formerly. The reason is that it is thought better for the man to steer. Still another novelty is the new double drop frame tandem for women, a novelty in tandems intended to accommodate two friends who wish to take a spin together. It is adapted either for skirts or bloomers, and is destined to be a favorite, as it is manufactured in response to a demand. The list of wheels as it stands now is the single, tandem, triplet, quad, quint, sextuplet and double quint. When such a machine as the double quint was absolutely undreamed of two years ago, there is no telling where we may end. The future of telling where we may end. The future of bicycle racing in America is beyond pre-diction. Over 700 professional racing cy-Greece and the international races in London and Paris will give a great impetus to rac-A valuable improvement in '96 wheels will be halled with delight by all cyclers is the invention which permits adjustable handlebars. By merely pressing a nut the cyclist can now adjust his handle bar low or high, a process which is a great saying of time and patience formerly neces-

sary for this operation. Women's wheels average twenty pounds, the first time they have been made so light, have heretofore weighed from twentyfive to twenty-eight pounds. One rather re-markable feature impossible to overlook is that about half of the women's wheels being



DOUBLE DROP FRAME TANDEM

made this year are of the diamond fram pattern. The bloomer is abroad in the land and lovely woman is no longer wedded to the drop frame. Some high cycling authorities are responsible for the statement that no woman who ever rides a diamond frame will afterward use the drop frame. As for THE SADDLE PROBLEM.

ideal saddle has not yet been in vented and there is still room for improve-ment, but the '96 saddles are better than their predecessors. The rivalry among the manufacturers in every possible point is tremendous. They are just now vying with one another in name plates and in conse-quence the market is full of a number of beautiful and artistic ones. There is also keen competition in artistic catalogues, calendars and advertising. Leading firms employ the best talent they can find and the finest draughtsmen and artists are kept ecustantly busy on advertising work. Among wheels may be mentioned the vari-colored eramel being used for the first time this year. Every color of the rainbow is used and one firm is using enamel inlaid with mother of pearl and onyx finish with exquisite effect. The more popular colors in quisite effect. The more popular colors in the cnamel are black and maroon, although dark green is coming in. One of the most beautiful wheels it is possible to imagine is now on the market and has a white saddle enamel frame and white-tipped handle It is as dainty a wheel as any one wish to ride and will be extremely popular for a woman's wheel. Ninety-six will be a year in cycling which will surpass all former records in America and all foreign countries, and it will be the forerunner of things in cycling than are yet

Legislation and proposed legislation anent bicycling is of too voluminous a nature to more than mention here. Speedways and yards, rate of speed in parks and on highways, special bloycle paths in proposed insurance for bicycle riders, or no brake, recently determined for recently organized a "cycle brigade," which will tour his territory as soon as the weather stance had things his own way.

THE MATTER OF DRESS.

Winter cycling has done one good thing ar women, says the New York Sun; it has evolutionized their ideas in regard to unterwear. The countryman who came to recently organized a "cycle brigade," which will tour his territory as soon as the weather will tour his territory as soon as the weather is a little bit more settled. The brigade will be composed of ten lassies and ten men, all musicians. The start will be made from Kansas City and the route will lie through Kansas, Missouri, Arkansas, Oklahoma and Indian Territory.

The brigade mounted on bicycles will be practically a brass band on wheels and the feature is entirely new and original with Brigadier Sully.

There will be special costumes designed

ROUND ABOUT ON WHEELS town and remarked, on seeing nothing on the bed set saide for him by his rich host but one light Lianker and an elderdown quilt, "Well, I'll be goldarned! I allers told Nancy that half the women folks died of freezing, and now they want to freeze me, too," was not so very far wrong. For many years physicians and dress reformers have contended that the majority of women hurt their health by not dressing warmly enough.

The members. That for women has not yet been determined. The men will probe ably wear white caps or heimets with the red ribbon of the organization.

Between towns when the distances are long the lassies will travel by rail and take charge of the musical instruments. There is a host of volunteers already, but their health by not dressing warmly enough. tended that the majority of women hurt their health by not dressing warmly enough, and now they are saying that the bicycle is rapidly changing this bad habit. This is especially true of those women who make a practice of riding in cold weather. The draw practice of riding in cold weather. The dress adopted by the average woman is a lightweight, but all wool union suit, woolen stock-ings, heavy woolen tights and a sweater, in addition to the cycling suit, which is made of winter material. Clothed in this way they should suffer very little from the cold.

"The wind we find quite annoying," said one girl, "and the mud quite impassable, but outside of those two elements the day can't come cold enough to keep a rapid spin from being healthful, invigorating and charming."

Men have always been more sensible than women in the matter of underwear, and this is probably due to the fact that convention in dress with them does not find warm flannels in the way. They claim that the only additional garment a man requires for winadditional garment a man requires for winter cycling is a heavy sweater. However
all this may be, one thing is certain, that
winter cycling is here and the wheel people,
no matter whether they spin around in a
well-heated academy or drink in the icy air
in the parks, are all unanimous in thinking
and saying that it has come to stay.

ADVICE TO WHEELWOMEN.

and soap. Plunging into warm water and
conscientiously rubbing themselves, they
afterward feel enervated, weakened and incapable of doing anything but sleep.
What a wheelman needs after a ride is a
very quick bath or a shower with the water
as cold as he can bear it, and then a long
and vigorous rubbing with rough towers. If
water with a little salt or alcohol in it is

In her recent lecture on "The Influence of her bicycles on the English market, and the Wheel," before an audience of Brooklyn though met by the usual British bluster, has women, Miss E. Marguerite Lindley said some things that may interest wheelwomen in general as well as the Brooklynites.

Among other remarks, Miss Lindley dared to ascert that the bicycle was not the universal cure for all the ills that have hitherto afflicted flesh. She even hinted that withcut some counteracting influence the bicycle would produce a race very unhealthy and very nearly deformed.

To aid in proving these lugubrious theories

she had a skeleton trunk, mounted a la scorcher, upon a wheel, which showed the audience the effect of bicycle postures upon the internal organs. The internal organs in this case were made of raw cotton and cambric coverings, but they were quite convinc-

To counteract the effect of these skeleton demonstrations and to show women that they might ride, and yet become neither maimed nor halt, Miss Lindley had two assistant

was plastered up as well as it could be; and the bleycling," said the lecturer, "the en-

members detailed to this duty. In towns where there are no regular posts efforts will be made to establish them

THE AFTER-BATH. There is a matter connected with cycling strange as it may appear, and that is the proper kind of a bath to take following a spin. A rational bath is important from health point of view, and the good work of the different organs of the body. After a long spin on the blcycie, where the rider perspires and is covered with the dust of the road, it is necessary not only to wash, but refresh the skin. Many cyclists bathe in the ordinary manner with hot or warm water and soap. Plunging into warm water and

used the tonic effects are increased. It is not necessary to plunge entirely into the water.

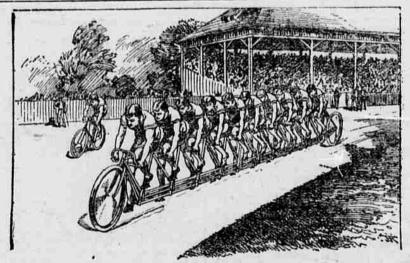
A large sponge soaked in water rubbed over the body, followed by a vigorous rubbing with a rough towel, is sufficient. The feeling after a bath is taken in this manner following the ride is one of exhibitant and lessens, if it does not entirely remove any sense of if it does not entirely remove, any sense o fatigue.

A BRAN NEW IDEA.

A novel experience with a wheel is de A novel experience with a wheel is de-scribed by a rider who was unfortunate enough to get a bad cut in one of his tires when off on a country road, miles away from the nearest railway station. He ob-tained lodgings for the night with a farmer near whose house the mishap occurred. The farmer's acquaintance with bicycles was limited, and he took the greatest interest in the traveler's machine, examining all its parts with unconcealed curiosity. When the rider explained the nature of his misfortune the farmer expressed astonishment might ride, and yet become neither maimed nor halt, Miss Lindley had two assistant demonstrators, who practiced "correctise exercisea."

After paying her tribute briefly to the possibilities of the bicycle as a means of outdoor exercise and freedom to women, Miss Lindley launched forth her invective against it as it actually is—a spoiler of feminine symmetry and poise, a disturber of internal organs and an irritant of external tissues. Then it was that the expressions of the audience became gloomy and the more easily influenced among them decided to sell their wheels at any sacrifice.

fortune the farmer expressed astonishment at learning that there was air in "those things around the wheels." After breakfast the next morning the traveler repeated what he had said about walking to the rail-road, whereupon the farmer remarked: "See here: I don't know about that. You come out to the barn with me after breakfast." Wondering what was going to happen, the rider shoved his wheel out to the barn, when the farmer brought out a bag of bran and proposed that they fill the tire with it. The operation took some little time, but finally it was accomplished, and the cut was plastered up as well as it could be; and



THE DOUBLE QUINT.

but it is not exercised. Therefore, unless supplementary exercise is given, the unused parts lose symmetry and flexibility."

Here the skeleton gave a depressing imitation of the figure which a bicyclist would eventually acquire without the supplementary exercises, and the women in the audience

Then, having shown by means of the skeleton, all the dangers and horrors of bleycling, she showed by means of the two attractive demonstrators how evils could be overcome. The bicyclist who takes these exercises, she said, would escape the lowered chest, the atrophied shoulder blades and all other disagreeable results wheeling, even, perhaps, the "bicycle

These supplementary exercises are not signed to be taken in intervals during a bicycling excursion, but at home. They are taken standing in proper position, with chest and abdomen in line, or lying on the back or chest. When standing the arms are raised shoulder high and extended, thereby raising the chest. The trunk is twisted, an exercise which brings into play many of the

unused muscles.

The most valuable of the corrective exercises for bicyclists, Miss Lindley said, is taken lying on the stomach, with the feet fixed firmly and the hands on the hips. From this position the head and shoulders are raised by means of the muscles of the back. Another valuable exercise is taken lying on the back and extending the leg up and out from the hip. Both of these movements give exercise to the muscles which bi-

cycling neglects.

The knickerbocker girl received a rebuke when the lecturer stated that bicycling afforded no excuse for mannish attire. A union undergarment, a corset waist, a di-vided underskirt and a properly made dress she declared to be an eminently sensible and entirely satisfactory garb for wheelwomen. Narrow bicycle saddles Miss Lindley de-clared to be the cause of half the evils resulting from wheeling. She advocates the use of a saddle adapted to the needs of the person who sat on it—a made-to-order sad-dle, as she insisted that the width of the made-to-order saddle should be at approximately as great as that of a properly

BICYCLE FIRE ENGINE.

A bicycle fire engine was one of the nove exhibits at the recent bicycle exhibition in Paris. Naturally it attracted considerable attention. The machine is made up of two tandem safetice, braced together, with a slight alteration in front to make the wheel single-steering. In the space between the two frames in the front part a hose-reel is mounted. In the center there is a doubleacting rotative pump, and at the back are two pipes to be fitted to any source of water supply. The machines thus equipped do not weigh over 144 pounds, and it is claimed that four expert bicycle riders can drive one of them to a fire in less time than it would take horse-propelled engines to get to it.

The operating work of the bicycle fire engine is very simple. When a fire is reached each rider has his part to perform. Two of the riders make the water pipe con-nection. The third man runs out the hose while the fourth man raises the back wheels while the fourth man raises the back wheels from the ground by means of the support, which is elevated out of the way, while the machine is being ridden. The pump is brought into position for action by the raising of the wheels from the ground.

It is claimed that with experienced men water can be played on the fire within three or four minutes after the second of the second of

or four minutes after the arrival of the cycle fire engine. At a recent trial in Paris
—four men pedaling—a stream of water was
thrown nearly 100 feet in a horizontal direction and seventy-five feet in a vertical one SALVATIONISTS ON WHEELS.

Brigadier Sully, commander of the south-west division of the Salvation army, has recently organized a "cycle brigade," which

ergies are localized. The back, arms, shoulderblades and even abdominal muscles are not used. When wheeling at a rapid pace or on an upgrade the trunk is thrown forward, trail of bran behind him on the road. ROLLER BEARINGS.

F. G. Barnett, the "Nebraska Cyclone, who holds a score of unpaced world's rec-ords, has hit on an invention which he thinks will replace the ball bearings in a bicycle. He proposes to substitute for the stationary balls roller bearings. He claims the new arrangement will do away with most of the friction. On a wheel fitted with the new device Barnett will ride for the unpaced mile record of 2:00 2-5 held by W. S Sanger of Milwaukee. The trial will be made on the Fountain Ferry track at Louis-ville as soon as spring weather takes the chill out of the air. Barnett claims that his "roller bearings" make a machine 20 per cent faster. Barnett has been training hard every day and is in sciendid form to begin a season's work. When the Nebraeka boy green at riding a wheel, tied the world's inpaced record two seasons ago as held by Sanger, Ed Moulton predicted that he would be the fastest unpaced rider in the world. With nearly all the unpaced records under twenty-five miles to Barnett's credit, it seems as if Moulton's prediction will be veri

THE COLORED DIVISION. For the coming national meet of the League of American Wheelmen Louisville will probably have one committee this will never been set a meet before. This will be a committee of colored wheelmen, to look after the interests of any colored riders who are the interest. will probably have one committee that has may come to the meet. Under the league constitution, only white persons may become members of the organization, and therefore no preparation for the entertainment of colored visitors will be made by the general committee. There as colored wheelmen in the country, There are many and there is no reason why they should be prohibited from seeing the national races or viewing the parades. To look after these visitors a committee of colored local riders will in all probability be selected. John Palmer, Waiter Scott, Alexander Wilson Paimer, Walter Scott, Alexander and two or three other well known colored wheelmen of Louisville are now forming a

LEAVE THE BABY AT HOME. year men and women can be found tearing along the streets with helpless, hapless babies tied to the machine before them, their poor eyes blinking in the sun, while they are can only be guessed.

In case of an accident, the baby is the one in the greatest danger, and makes it much more difficult for the other rider to extricate himself at a moment's notice. It may not hurt some children to be taken riding for a short time, at a slow pace, but the scorcher with the baby ought to be abolished.

Whisperings of the Wheel. The Anonymous Bicycle club, a south side organization, was formed at National hall last Sunday, about forty charter members being enrolled. The south side is in a bi cycle furore and the Anonymous club expects

to reach a membership of several hundred

before the summer season is far advanced. S. Kendis was elected president and J. Harry There has been some talk of abolishing the national circuit. Whether it would be that the manufacturers who employ racing teams are at present dissatisfied with the idea of their jumping several hundred miles at a time; but, if the distance can be modified in some way, it is possible that the national circuit will survive the opposition manifested to it. A conference between the Cycle Board of Trade and the League

Those who are so anxious to rush in an declare Zimmerman a has been, had better delay passing such an opinion until the close of the coming sesson. They may learn something during that time which will cause

shortly to determine this interesting ques

them to have a different opinion. Among other offers now being considered by Zim is one from an American manufacturer of \$8,000 and expenses to ride the manufacturer's wheel. Tife money, prizes and other such pickings all to go to Zim. That doesn't look like A. A. Z. was a has been, does it?

From a business point of view the bleycle has also been tested and not found wanting. It enables the outdoor worker to reach dis-tant points with the greatest facility, and is therefore a time and labor saver as well as a rival of the street car.

A few years ago a sane man would have been jeered out of any gathering of engineers if he had said that eighteen pounds of steel, wood and rubber would carry 185 pounds over 10,000 miles of ordinary roads, yet a high-grade wheel can do this, with no breakages beyond a broken spoke, a bent pedal, or some

Loukville has selected August 10 to 15 as the dates for the national meet, and has filed a claim for the sanction of these days with President Eillott until the new racing board

An ordinance drafted by the cyclists of Denver, restricting the speed in the city limits to eight miles an hour, but not requir-ing a bell or lamp, has been passed by the Board of Aldermen

The extraordinary development in the con-struction of bicycles is best illustrated in the six-seated bicycles. While retaining all the graceful lines of a single bicycle, these muchines are built to carry an immens weight at a high rate of speed. It is the greatest principle of bridge building worked out in the most delicate of metal which produces this pleasure-giving vehicle.

Persons who have witnessed the sensational racing on small tracks in France claim that the track of the future will be of that character, as competition on it is always spectacular, and, as a result, pleasing to the persons witnessing it.

The battle is over; professionalism rises above the smoke and debris of a bitterly fought contest. Following in the rear is fought contest. Following in the rear is pure amateurism, and never again will the taint of the moneyed class be allowed to conflict with its purity. Sterling Elliott, that hard worker for better roads and a greater interest in cycling, now heads the wheeling contingent as its chief executive. In him wheelmen will find an able leader. His careful foresight and perfect and thorough knowledge of all that pertains to the sport, knowledge of all that pertains to the sport, besides a wide interest in cycle racing, make him fit for a position to which he will do full justice.

In naming Mr. Elliott the national as-sembly delegates had in mind the selection of an officer who would uphold their every interest, and Sterling Elliott is an individual who will not be found lacking in any quality, particularly those essential ones which are requisites in the embodiment of the diplomat, and a man to head an order of the character and importance of the League of American Wheelmen. No one denies the right of Archie Willison to be classed favorably with his triumphant op-ponent, but the tide of the engagement ponent, but the tide of the chaggement turned against him, and, when the senti-ment of the delegates was so forcibly ex-pressed, he, with true southern chivalry, took the floor and demanded that the election be made unanimous, thereby securing the re gard and admiration of every man in the

It is President Elliott's purpose to increase the League of American Wheelmer membership to 60,000 before another winter comes, and no one doubts that his indefati gable efforts in this direction will succeed Although George D. Gideon, last year chairman of the National Racing board, was openly for Willison, Mr. Elliott has cast his prejudice to the winds and reappointed the man who has labored so earnestly in the past to bring about a reform in racing will work to the best interests of

Charles M. Murphy, very much elated over his success in securing reinstatement in the League of American Wheelmen, is now making active preparations to leave scon for Europe, where he will soon be an opponent of T. W. Eck's aggregation of pro-fessional racing men. Murphy was fully vindicated from any blame whatever in al-leged "fixed" races at St. Louis last summer. Titus and Cabanne were less fortunate, though the assembly displayed a sentiment favorable to leniency in their cases. It is doubtful if these riders will be reinstated

Speaker Reed is quoted as saying, in re sponse to the question what he considered the most important problem now before the public: "How to dodge a bicycle." The cogency of this utterance will be apparent to many who have tried to get out of the way of a cross-eyed man riding a bicycle.

Many of the crack racing men of th country are riding yellow-rimmed machines The Yellow Fellow Year Book is a little volume every bicycle devotee in the country should secure, as it contains more informa-tion to the square inch than any bicycle literature on the market. Although a little cold, the weather of th

past week has been generally favorable to the cyclist. The streets have been dry, and, owing to the fact that they are all receiving their spring cleaning, are in good shape for riding. It is a trifle too cold yet for the cycle houses to do much business, although most of the dealers seem eatisfied with the outlook so far, and predict that as soon as good, warm weather set in, there will be double the number of blcycles sold than there were last year.

Manager Mardis informed the cycling editor that now since the League of American Wheelmen had done away with class B, that he will put on mostly professional during the coming season, and in view of the fact that most all of the fast men in this vicinity have signified their intentions of riding for the good, hard coin, it is thought that he is wise in deciding to encourage that he is wise in deciding to encourage them. The following officers were elected for the coming year: William Lyle Dickey, president; W. J. Foye, vice presdient; Ed T. Heyden, secretary; G. W. Johnston, treas-urer; W. L. Mardis, manager.

Floyd McCall, who was one of Denver' The city of San Francisco has passed an ordinance prohibiting fond parents from carrying babies on the front of bicycles. Physicians have protested against it in vain. They have shown that the delicate mechanness promising racing men in the west, and most promising racing men in the west, and most promising racing men in the west, and the provided of the most promising racing men in the west, and most promising racing men in the west, and the west, and the provided of the most promising racing men in the west, and the provided of the pr ism of a young child should not be subjected to the glare of the sun and force of wind. They have warned in vain. Every decimal to the path during the complex to the path during to the glare of the sun and force of wind. tion on the path during the coming season They have warned in vain. Every day of the will be good news to all wheelmen in this vicinity

shivering with the exposure to the cold, rushing air. They have none of the exercise to Saturday evening. The committee that they must seep them warm, and what they must seep them warm, and what they must seep them. The Turner Wheel club is making elab and as it is something decidedly new, should draw a large crowd. The following is a list of the wheels and how they will be portrayed in the tableaux: Imperial—emperor, Dayton, up-to-date dude, Munger—Fairy, Barns—White Flyer, Viking—Sea King, Spalding—Sport, Andrea—New Woman, Orlent—Turk, Norwood—Metallic Knight, Newport-Swell, Columbus-Christopher, United States-Uncle Sam, Fowler-Hunter, Tribune -Tribunal, Thistle-Scotch, Crescent-Girl in half moon, Gendron-Star, Fenton-Fancy, Chief-Indian, World-Monte Cristo, leon-General, Stearns-Yellow Fellow, Kearnev-Nebraska, Peerless-Prince in Rambler—Tourist, Monarch—King, Sterling— Silver, Syracuse—Red Devil, Remington— Sportsman, America-Stars and Stripes.

F. P. Dailey, representing one the big bleyele manufactories, was in the city several days last week, and succeeded in placing the agency for his wheel with a well known hardware firm.

All the bicyclers in town are raving ove W. D. Townsend's sign-his old ordinary done up in colors of the rainbow, and which acts as a weather vane in front of his place

Omaha wheelmen who want to see a fi third-mile track here this spring and the state meet, July 3 and 4, should join the new Omaha League club and help to push the scheme to a successful issue. It has been about six years now since Omaha has held a state meet, and it is pretty near time that we were awakening to the fact that if we want to hold it this year, some tall hustling will have to bed one.





As usual, we receive credit for having the most complete and attractive line of spring and summer woolens in the city.

A large and growing business like ours-necessarily requires a generous assortment,

Not only the fabrics but the prices also, will tempt you to place your order.

Trousers at \$5, \$6, \$7, \$8, \$9, \$10 Suits at \$20, \$25, \$28, \$30, \$35.

You see the same prices elsewhere—but they have a decidedly different mea ing when Nicoll's name is alongside.

SAMPLES REQUEST.

207 South

GAME BIRDS MIGHTY SCARCE

Wild Fowl Deserting the Favorite Haunts in This Section.

POOR PROSPECT FOR SPRING SPORT

Winter Conditions Unfavorable for Good Season-Chatty Stuff with the Handlers of the



asserted

it requires plenty of water to make good duck shooting, and plenty of water is something we are decidedly shy on in this state. While this is one good reason for the prevailing opinion that the sport will be limited, there are others equally as convincing. Thus far, notwith-standing the many days and weeks of pleasant weather we have had, there have been but few birds killed, and those that have been brought to bag have been sprigtails, with but few exceptions. A few mallards have come into the market from the southern part of lowa, but so few as to indicate that this royal bird intends to give this paricular region a wide berth this spring. At the best ducking grounds in this vicinity along the upper Missouri and the Platte there have been but precious few birds any kind killed, and up to date there is noth-ing to indicate that the order of things will undergo much change for the better. Of course, within the next fifteen days the main issue of birds from the south, or that portion of them that intends to wing north by this route will be here, and for a brief period some considerable sport may be had, but as I said before, it will be limited in comparison with that which accompanies favorable conditions. Not only are the ducks so far exceedingly scarce, but the flight of geese both Canadas and speckle-fronts, have been exceedingly attenuated. White geese are unprecedentedly scarce, and even along the Platte in many of their former most fa vored haunts, they have not as yet appeared at all. Another thing that makes it evident that the sportsman's fears are well grounded ually open winter, and spring is advancing after such uncertain fashion. seasons of this description wild fowl nover know to be overly plentiful in this latitude. They come straggling in, from early February until the middle of April, in small flocks and bunches and a general migration is out of the question. The birds come north with no settled destination in mind and drop down in the streams an lakes and sloughs from Indian territory to North Dakota, some here, some there, but at no place in such swarms as marke a spring after a rigorous winter. So, tak ing all these contingencies into question, the lack of water, the mixed and drawn out condition of the weather, and the fact that reports from the Mississippi valley state the birds are passing up that way in myriads, it will be easily understood why our spring shooting should prove slender and unsatisfactory. Still there are times when all signs fail, and I earnestly hope this is one of them, and that when Gentle Annie once does make up her mind to assert herself in earnest, that the ducks will pour in upon us in a way that will recall the golden days of the past—the days when John Petty General Crook, John Collins, Judge Ken-nedy and the old school shooters used to saunter out and knock the birds down until

they were black in the face.

They say that there will be good shooting among the lakes and sloughs south of Valentine and north of Irwin and Paxton. but I doubt it, and Ed Hamilton writes me from his place in Deuel county that he expecting great sport. The canvashact ve already begun to arrive and il be in in force before the will be in in local month expires. Sam Richmond has month expires. Sam Richmond has month expires. Sam Richmond has model camps pitched on the fretful Platto this side of Clarks, and Platto this side of Clarks, and has been knocking the pintails has been knocking the past Platto this side of Clarks, and has been knocking the pintalls right and left during the past week, and he too swears by the bone of the Canada's wing that the birds are going to be thicker'n ever. His camps are costly situated among sheltering willows at a point unsurpassed on the river, and if the quackers do come in he and his guests are bound to get their share of them. Uncle George West is also making extensive preparations at his matchless hostelry in Clarks to take care of as many ambitious sports-

BANKRUPT SALE OF CIGARS AND TOBACCOS

\$20,000 worth of cigars, tobacco, pipes, and smokers' articles too numer-

ous to mention, must be sold at wholesale or retail regardless of cost for cash. & This was the stock of Max Meyer & Co. who carried the finest brands of cigars and tobaccos in the market,

could.

his recovery.

ALLEN KOCH. Mgr., 1018 Farnam St.

Dr. C. B. Little, an enthusiastic sports man of Bloomfield, writes me as follows: BLOOMFIELD, Neb., March 6.-S. G. V. Griswold, Omaha, Neb.: Dear Sir-I am more than pleased to note that some conmany times before in these certed action is being taken for the pro tection of game and fish in our state. It seems almost like locking the stable door after the theft of the horse, yet it is not too late to save the remnants. Many of us in this neck of the woods are with you heart and hand. May your association make it everlastingly hot for the numerous game hogs of the state. Count on us braska Fish and Game association. DR. C. B. LITTLE

My old friend, S. B. Reynard of Grand Island, has at last got his patented goose decoy well upon the market. It is a good thing and should be pushed along. It is reversible and may be used for either a white or Canada goose. The body is made of a pliable, tough, waterproof cardboard, bound with brass and tin. The feet, which bound with brass and tin. The feet, which support this body, are of iron and extend below on each side. The head is of light wood, and by means of a long pin goes through the front of the body into the sand-bar or ground. These three fastenings hold the decoy solid in the strongest wind. They are very light and are not affected by frost. They can be put out and taken up n less time than any decoy ever before invented, and are certainly a very excellent

George B. Adams is an Omaha author of no mean merit. In the February number of Recreation he has a splendidly humorous poem on "The Cowboy and the Wheel" and poem on "The Cowboy and the Wheel" and in the March number a still better effort entitled "It Snowed Last Night." This latter entitled "It Snowed Last Night." and brings is indeed a meritorious story and brings back the halcyon days of every reader who ever lived in the country and who ever went out for rabbits in the first "tracking

Barrister Will Simeral and Fred Frye put in a day at Richmond's camps near Clarks during the past week, but it did not take them long to discover that they were a triffe premature. However, they brought back a couple brace of pin-tails and a pair of speckle-front geese. Billy and Irvine Gardner have been at Richmond all week, in fact are still there. They have had some shooting, but their shipments home have been few and far apart.

For the benefit of our State Fish Com nent pisiculturists who have made a study rout fry less than a year old should not be placed in cold water streams. It has been proven that comparatively few of the large numbers of trout fry ranging in age from 3 to 9 months that have been put into waters when they were compelled to hunt for their food have thrived.

J. A. Sunderland, M. A. Hall and W. C. Ives folded their little tents and hied them selves out on the frozen Platte Friday even ing. They expect to be absent a couple of weeks, but did not state before departing whether they were going out to cut ice or hunt ducks.

Charlie Waterman of the Union Pacific put in Sunday last on the Missouri above Calhoun. He bagged something like a dozen pintails and three or four speckle-front

A. H. Bogardus, jr., a son of Captain Bo-gardus, has been doing some fine shooting in the west with a 22-caliber rifle. Recently on a wager he broke ninety-three Raut targets out of a possible 100, thrown from

A new variety of rabbits has sprung us in Australia, which is not only very prolific but has a digestive apparatus that makes it a greater source of damage to the country than a fleet of ironclads would be. It flourthan a fleet of ironclads would be. It flour-ishes in time of drouth, and grows fat while cattle and sheep perish of hunger. To head off the rodents the country is now gridironed the rabbit-proof fences. One of these fences is said to be 1,100 miles in length. PARSON AND ELDER.

A poor woman came to the parson of the parish, relates the Sunday Magazine, with the request: "Please, pass'n! my ou'd sow be took cruel bad. I wish now you'd be so good as to come and say a prayer over her."

"A prayer! Goodness preserve us! I cannot come and pray over a pig—a pig, my dear Sally-that is not possible. "Her be cruel bad, groaning, and won't eat her meat. If she dies, pass'n-whativer shall we do i' the winter wi'out bacon sides, and ham? Oh, dear! Do'y now, pass'n-

come and say a prayer over my sow."
"I really, really must not degrade my sacred office. Sally! indeed I must not." "Oh, pass'n! do'y now!" and the good reature began to sob. The parson was a tender-hearted man, and tears were too much. He agreed to go to the cottage, see the pig, and do what he

Accordingly, he visited the patient, which Accordingly, he visited the pastor lay groaning in the stye.

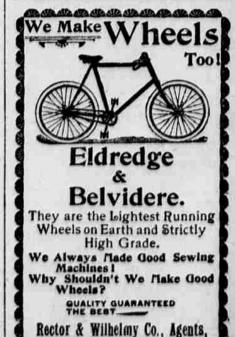
The woman gazed wistfully at the pastor and waited for the prayer. Then the clergyman raised his right hand, pointed with one man raised his right hand, pointed with one layer. finger at the sow, and said solemnly: "If thou livest, O pig! then thou livest, If thou diest, O pig! then thou diest!" Singularly enough, the sow was better that same evening and ate a little wash. She was well, and had recovered her appetite

wholly next day,

Now it happened, some months after this, that the rector felt very ill, with a quinsy that nearly choked him. He could not swallow, he could hardly breathe. His life was in imminent danger. Sally was a visitor every day at the rectory and was urgent to set the sick man. She was refused admission, but pressed so vehem-ently that finally she was suffered just to see him; but she was warned not to speak. She was conducted to the sick room, and

the door thrown open. Then she beheld her pastor lying in bed, groaning, almost in ex-Raising her hand she pointed at him with one finger, and said: "If thou livest, O pass'n! then thou livest! If thou diest, O The effect on the sick man was-an explo-

"Mogy," the newsboy king, has added a bicycle cleaning department to his shoe polishing emporium at the corner of Fifcenth and Farnam streets. with wheels to clean should call on Mogy. He has engaged an artist in the business.



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